

5-1-2006

# The Current

Nova Southeastern University

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# The Current

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

MAY 1, 2006

HTTP://WWW.NSUCURRENT.COM

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 29

## Rallies Continue as NSU Remains Neutral

By Paul Saneauz  
Staff Writer

SEIU members and UNICCO workers held what SEIU officials have called "24 hour strikes" over the last few weeks, but university operations have continued apparently unaffected.

In several letters to the NSU community, President Ray Ferrero, Jr., said that the SEIU has been advised that the university "will not tolerate any further disruption of university events, on or off this campus."

Ferrero has maintained that NSU's stance on the issue is to continue fulfilling the university's mission of providing the students with education and a safe working environment for faculty and staff members.

Due to legal protocols, protestors must give NSU officials a seven day advance notice of any demonstration because of the presence of a medical facility. SEIU has also been notified, according to an open letter to the NSU community by President Ray Ferrero, Jr., "that they must confine their picketing activities to two entry gates on SW 36 Street."

The result of the restrictions on union activities has limited



UNICCO workers at a recent rally show their support call for victory.

interruptions on campus but also has left students uninvolved.

Junior Damian Black said "Public Safety and President Ferrero have been doing a good job of protecting the interests of the students and keeping most people informed through updates on the website and in emails."

However, Black agrees that the students have also been sheltered. This may be reflected in the lack of NSU student support in the rallies that have taken place in the last month.

In the most recent open

letter released on April 26, Ferrero addressed the "second union action directed against NSU" that involved "some UNICCO workers going on strike" on April 24. He also mentioned that "replacement workers who reported to work serviced all NSU facilities..."

Executive Director of University Relations Dave Dawson commented on the origin of the replacement workers:

"I don't know the exact

**Please See SEIU**  
Page 11

## Women's Tennis Team Has Best Year Ever

By Alicia Winslett  
Sports Editor

This year has been the best yet for the women's tennis team, as they placed fourth in the Sunshine State Conference this year, fifth in the region, and ranked ninth nationally. "Everyone is working hard and it's the best year we've had," said Coach Michael Coleman said. "We've played against seven divisions and we beat six of them, and that's a great accomplishment."

The team also had two players that received national rankings. Alexa Korotkevich was ranked 17<sup>th</sup> in the country in singles, and Ulia Talalenko was ranked 28<sup>th</sup> in singles. In doubles, the two were ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the country.

The tennis team also competed in the SSC tournament, but fell to Eckerd College 5-2. Despite the loss, the Sharks still had their highest finish ever in the SSC. This year, Lynn University defeated the defending champion Barry University 5-1 to claim the SSC title for the third time in the last four years.

In the tournament, the only NSU team to take home a win was the number one duo, Korotkevich and Talalenko. They posted an 8-5 victory in the top match. Additionally, Jessica Homerlein won her singles match. Eckerd had wins in the three, four, and five matches to take the win.

## Student Research Goes Beyond the Classroom in the Farquhar Student Journal

By Judith Francois  
Staff Writer

NSU undergraduate students now have a place to be recognized for their academic work by having it published exclusively in the Farquhar Student Journal.

"We are hoping to get tons of submissions," said Michael Reiter, the Assistant Director of Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, who is also in charge of the online journal.

"This is a great opportunity for [all undergraduate] students; they now have a publication of their own," said Reiter. He indicated that the idea came from Mathew He, Director of the Math Science and Technology department, when the two were having a conversation a few years ago.

Students who write exceptional research papers and who participate in research projects, such as the NSU annual Student Research Symposium, are encouraged to submit their work including case studies, critical analysis and even term papers. Each work submitted needs to have a faculty signature to sign off as a support system.

Faculty who see brilliant papers or projects from their students may encourage students to submit their work. "The instructors know that our students do good work," said Reiter, and the student journal is a way to share their research.

"The faculty work with students, and we don't want students to just leave [their work] in the classroom," said Reiter. "All

faculty want to present the work that students do in class and build it and make it a journal worthy paper, and present it to state and national conferences and [competitions]."

Once submitted, each piece will be reviewed by journal editors Allison Brimmer and Emily Schmitt, professors of humanities and science, respectively, and finally by Reiter, who serves as chief editor.

If a submission is incomplete, it will be returned to the students for improvement. "We may ask for revisions," said Reiter. In the end "only good work" will make it to the journal.

Students who have work

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# Bizarre Briefs

Compiled by Greg Kyriakakis

## Man Shoots Self with 12 Nails, Forgets About Them for a Year

An unidentified Oregon man attempted to kill himself with a nail gun by shooting 12 nails into his skull. A year later, he went to a hospital complaining of a headache, at which time surgeons found the nails and used "needle-nosed pliers and a drill" to remove the building materials. An Associated Press report said that before the incident, the man had taken methamphetamine and was suicidal. Considered to be the first person to survive so many "foreign objects into the head," the unidentified individual was nearly killed when the nails almost struck "major blood vessels and the brain stem."

## Man Flushes "Worthless" Money

When a 64-year-old German retiree found out that the Euro replaced his country's native currency, he decided to flush about 30,000 marks down the toilet. According to the Associate Press, city officials responded to complaints of a blocked pipe in Kiel and found "soggy bundles of bank notes" at the same time the man reported a pipe blockage in his home. Left with 30,000 notes, police accompanied the man to the local bank where he deposited his remaining money.

## Doctor Offering Breast Exams... Not a Doctor

Falling for the oldest trick in the book, two Lauderdale Lakes women recently allowed a 76-year-old man posing as a doctor to give them "free breast exams." A Miami Herald article said that Philip Winikoff visited an apartment complex with a doctor's bag and asked a 36-year-old if she'd like an exam. The fake doctor proceeded to administer the breast exam and decided to investigate the woman's other regions, at which point she alerted police. Winikoff was caught by authorities, but not before administering another exam.

## Woman Takes Road Trip with Dead Mother

Rather than pay a mortuary transportation service to move her dead mother, a German woman drove her deceased parent about 280 miles before being apprehended by authorities. Traveling from the northern city of Bremerhaven, the woman was stopped by police after being alerted by the mortuary that she did not want to pay for her mother's transport, reported Deutsche Welle. A police spokesman said that "The corpse was on the back seat without a seat belt, which in this case didn't really matter." The woman will face a "modest fine" for violating burial laws and disturbing the dead's peace.

# News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

## North America

### Bush takes action over rising gas prices

According to Reuters, President George W. Bush "ordered a probe Tuesday [April 25] in any price gouging, called for an end to tax breaks for Big Oil, and suspended oil deposits into the U.S. emergency stockpile." Due to "trouble over soaring gasoline prices," Bush gave the Environmental Protection Agency temporary authority to "suspend federal clean-burning gasoline rules this summer that are forcing consumers to buy expensive new gasoline blends." A recent CNN poll stated that Bush's job approval rating fell to "a new low of 32 percent" as the price of gas rose to over \$3 a gallon in many areas: the reason many believe Bush is now focusing on fuel problems. In a conference with the Renewable Fuels Association, a group advocating the use of ethanol as a fuel, Bush said "energy experts predict gas prices are going to remain high throughout the summer and that's going to be a continued strain on the American people." For more information visit [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com).

## Europe

### Denmark sets terms for Taylor's stay

Following the European nations of Austria and Sweden, Denmark said on April 25 that it "would reject a request to provide a jail cell for former Liberian president Charles Taylor if he is convicted of war crimes," reported Reuters. Taylor is accused of supporting armed rebels "who killed, mutilated and raped civilians during Sierra Leone's 1991-2002 civil war." The U.N. seeks to move Taylor's trial to The Hague in the Netherlands instead of using a U.N. backed tribunal in Sierra Leone's capital of Freetown. At the tribunal, Taylor "pleaded not guilty to 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity." U.N. officials are afraid "his trial could spur unrest in Sierra Leone or Liberia if it is held in Freetown." However, the rejection of three European countries to Taylor's move has prevented the trial's transfer to The Hague. "Other countries than Denmark must be able to take care of this," said Justice Minister Lene Espersen of the northern European nation that "had until now responded favorably to every U.N. request to house people convicted by international courts." For more information visit <http://news.yahoo.com>.

## Central America

### Panama plans Canal expansion

The Associated Press reported on April 24 that "Panama's president said a planned expansion of the Panama Canal would define the waterway's role in the twenty-first century." President Martin Torrijos also asked Panamanian voters to pass a referendum later this year that would allot funds to the project. The expansion, costing \$5.3 billion out of the country's government budget of \$6.5 billion a year, will "make way for huge new container ships that can carry twice as much cargo." The largest ships that can pass through the canal's sections "are known as 'Panamax' vessels and can carry 4,000 cargo containers." However, Panamax ships can barely fit through the canal's width of only 108 feet. The expansion would be able to accommodate "Post-Panamax" cargo vessels by adding a third set of custom locks and water chambers. The government is pushing for support for the referendum, fearing that companies will "seek other routes between the Atlantic and the Pacific." Torrijos said the project will be "financed through canal fees and some bank investments without risking government social programs." For more information visit <http://news.yahoo.com>.

## Asia

### Suicide bomber disguised as pregnant woman kills 8

A Sri Lankan suicide bomber from the Tamil Tiger rebel faction "talked her way into a military complex" while pretending to be pregnant on April 25, reported the Associated Press. The woman then triggered the bombs strapped to her stomach in front of a car carrying a Sri Lankan army commander, "killing eight people and wounding the officer and 26 others." European ambassadors said soon after "this attack is yet another blow to the cease-fire agreement and the peace process." The rebels "accuse the Sinhalese-dominated government of discriminating against minority Tamils and want a separate homeland" on Sri Lanka. Although no one group claimed responsibility for the attack on Lieutenant General Sarath Fonseka, "the rebels have a history of using suicide bombers," said President Mahinda Rajapakse in a televised address. A few hours after the bombing, witnesses saw military planes and mortars attacking rebel positions 135 miles to the northeast. For more information visit [www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com).

## Europe

### EU accuses CIA of secret flights

The Associated Press reported on April 26 that European Union lawmakers claim "the CIA has conducted more than 1,000 clandestine flights in Europe since 2001, and some of them secretly took away terror suspects to countries where they could face torture." The selected committee of legislators investigating the allegations said that they have obtained flight information that shows hidden flight data planned by American CIA agents. The committee also "accused some European governments of knowing about it but remaining silent." The Associated Press received a copy of the committee's preliminary report which stated "the CIA has used aircraft registered under fictitious company names or with private companies to secretly transfer terror suspects to other countries including Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Afghanistan." The CIA has declined to comment on Associated Press inquiries. The EU, however, has also said that "there was no irrefutable proof of such hand-overs of terror suspects" and that they will not comment until the investigation is completed. For more information visit [www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com).

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## Baseball Team Finishes Season

By Tranell Mesa  
Staff Writer

The Nova Southeastern University baseball team (26-19, 8-10 SSC) displayed an outstanding team effort as they regrouped after a conference loss to Florida Tech 11-10 on April 22 and fought back to take the next two wins against the Panthers, finishing game two with a score of 6-5 and game three with 15-12.

Senior right handed pitcher Joe Franco had an excellent closing win in the first game on Sunday, showing stamina by closing the second game for yet another win later that same day. Both these saves add up to give Franco ten saves for this 2006 season, tying him at third place for the most all-time saves in one solo season.

With two conference series against the Rollins Tars and Eckerd College left in the season, the Sharks are sitting sturdy at the number six slot in conference standings just behind Lynn and Barry University. These next few games will be extremely important for the Sharks to win in order for them to continue on into the post

**Please See BASEBALL**  
Page 4



Katie Pepper makes contact with the ball. Photo courtesy Gary Curreri

## Softball Team Splits Win with Rollins College

By Alicia Winslett  
Sports Editor

On April 22, the NSU softball team took on Rollins College at Lake Island Park in Winter Park, Fla. The Sharks lost game one 2-1, but they grabbed a 2-1 win in the second game.

Outfielder Jada Phillips led the Sharks 2-for-6 at the plate with 1 RBI and 1 run scored. Junior pitcher Shannon Lynch had her ninth win of the season after pitching 8 innings, allowing only 1 run on 6 hits, and striking out four batters "I believe I pitched well in that game," said Lynch, "and as a team we played better in

the second game."

In the second game, Ashley Matthews was hit by a pitch in the top of the third and later scored on a Phillips single. The Sharks held the Tars at bay until the seventh inning, when Jen Olsen allowed Jamie Rausch to score from third.

The game then had to go to an extra inning to decide the win. In this inning, the Sharks had two singles and a double against Tars pitcher Nicole Anderson. Callie Binkley doubled to score Phillips from third, which gave the Sharks the 2-1 lead. In the bottom of the eighth, Shannon Lynch had her way with the Tars and kept them

from scoring.

This was the 21<sup>st</sup> win on the season for the Sharks, who are ranked tied for 6<sup>th</sup> in the Sunshine State Conference. The Sharks have 21 wins and 26 losses on the season, with 7 wins and 14 losses in the SSC.

"We've planned much better overall in the last three weeks," said coach Lesa Bonee. "We need to stay sharp on the little things, catching fly balls, running and executing, and we need to be consistent. If we win the next games we will have won ten of our last sixteen games."

## Men's and Women's Golf Wraps Up the Year

By Tranell Mesa  
Staff Writer

### Men's Team

NSU's men's golfing team was not able to defend their National title as they finished the season off in eighth place overall in conference play. Freshman Constantin Schwierz and senior Micheal Wangsness lead the Sharks through the tournament as they both ended the season with a bang, tied at 20<sup>th</sup> place.

### Women's Team

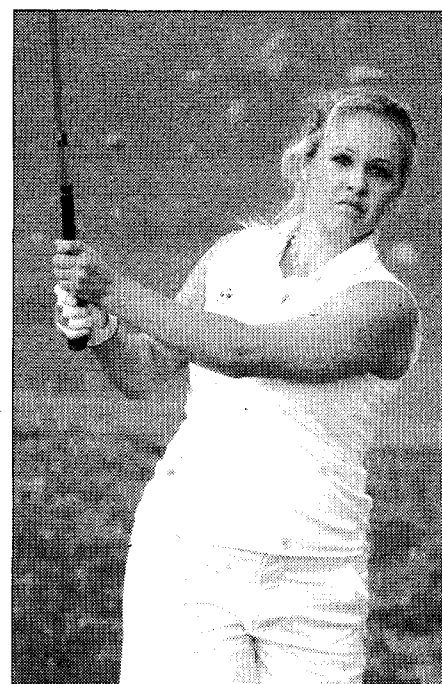
NSU's women's Golf team placed fifth overall in the final Sunshine State Conference tournament. Outstanding

performances were lead by sophomore Lina Bjorklund who finished at number eight and Jenni Mostrom, sophomore, who tied in the 14th spot.

The No. 5 Nova Southeastern University women's golf team was selected to participate in the 2006 NCAA Division II South Regional, and will be making their fourth straight trip to the Regional Tournament, hosted by the University of West Florida at Stonebrook Golf Club in Pensacola, Fla. May 1-2. The field of six teams will play 36 holes during the first day, with an

18-hole final round on Tuesday. The top two teams and the top two individuals will advance to the championships.

This will be a difficult tournament for NSU because they will face the top three teams in the nation: No. 1 Rollins College, No. 2 Florida Southern College and No. 3 Lynn University. Also in the field will be the host and sixth-ranked West Florida and No. 8 Barry University, as the Sunshine State Conference boasts five of the six competing institutions.

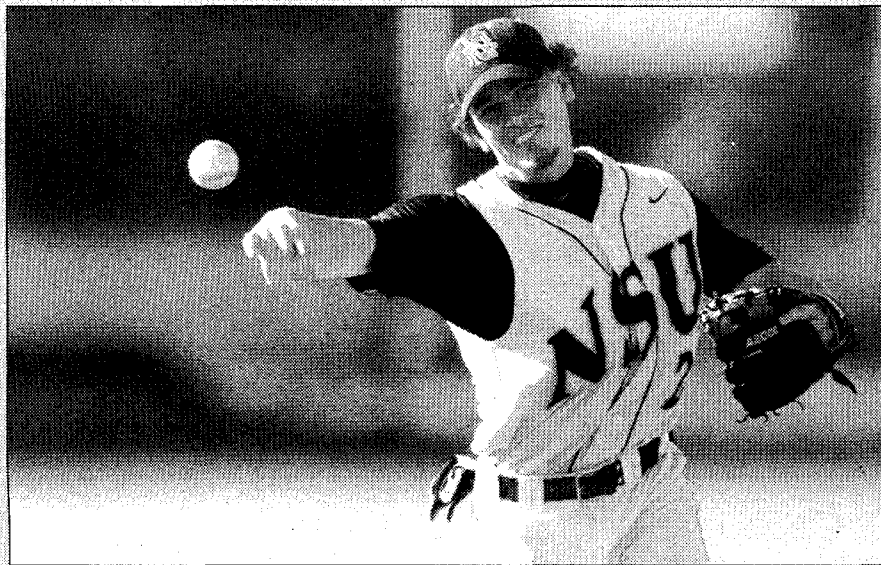


Sophomore Elizabeth bond hits out of the sand trap. Photo courtesy Gary Curreri



BASEBALL

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Shawn Langlois throws the ball to get the defender out. Photo courtesy Gary Curreri

season. "We need to take at least 5 of the next 6 games, if not all 6, in order to make it into the regional tournament," stated sophomore infielder, Charlie Bernert. "If we play the way we are capable of playing, i dont see any reason why we cant win these last 6 conference games." For fun and interesting facts concerning your Shark baseball alumni log onto nsuathletics.edu and see who is playing where.

NSU's Sports Stats of the Week

Baseball SSC STANDINGS							
	SSC			OVERALL			
	W	L	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Tampa	16	2	.889	37	6	0	.860
Florida Southern	13	5	.722	33	15	0	.688
Saint Leo	10	8	.556	30	18	0	.625
Barry	9	9	.500	30	17	1	.635
Lynn	10	11	.476	30	17	0	.638
Nova Southeastern	8	10	.444	26	19	0	.578
Florida Tech	9	12	.429	25	21	0	.543
Rollins	5	13	.278	25	21	0	.543
Eckerd	4	14	.222	13	29	0	.310

Softball SSC STANDINGS							
	SSC			OVERALL			
	W	L	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Florida Southern	18	3	.857	47	4	0	.922
Barry	17	4	.810	36	9	0	.800
Florida Tech	15	9	.625	31	16	0	.660
Saint Leo	13	8	.619	34	18	0	.654
Rollins	11	10	.524	42	16	0	.724
Lynn	7	14	.333	24	23	0	.511
Nova Southeastern	7	14	.333	21	26	0	.447
Tampa	6	15	.286	19	28	0	.404
Eckerd	2	19	.095	13	38	0	.255

Tennis SSC STANDINGS				
	SSC		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Lynn	8	0	19	1
Barry	7	1	16	4
Eckerd	6	2	19	4
Nova Southeastern	5	3	16	7
Rollins	4	4	13	11
Florida Southern	3	5	11	11
Tampa	2	6	8	13
Florida Tech	1	7	4	19
Saint Leo	0	8	5	14

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## Last Bite of the Year...

### Current Events Calendar

#### May 1

Study Break  
9 - 11 p.m. Goodwin Lobby

#### May 2

Cafeteria Exam Jam  
10 p.m. - 12 a.m.  
Rosenthal Cafeteria

#### May 6

Last Day of Classes

Alternate Student  
Commencement  
Time/Location TBA  
*Email NSUCommencement2006@gmail.com for more details*

The Night Before  
6 - 8 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library

#### May 7

NSU Undergraduate Ceremony  
4 - 7 p.m. Bank Atlantic Center

#### May 28

HPD Graduation Ceremony  
1 - 4 p.m. Bank Atlantic Center

#### June 17

Fischler School of Education  
& Human Services (FSEHS)  
Graduation Ceremony  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Office Depot  
Center - Sunrise

Graduate School  
Commencement Ceremony  
4 - 7 p.m. Office Depot Center  
*for the following: Huizenga  
School of Business (grads),  
Center for Psychological Studies,  
Oceanography, GSHSS, GSCIS  
and Criminal Justice Institute*

*Compiled from the Student Affairs  
calendar & NSU Shark Bytes.*

## Homophobia Awareness Week Inspires Unity at NSU

By Greg Kyriakakis  
*Current Affairs Editor*

GSSA Homophobia Awareness Week allowed the NSU community to recognize the importance of tolerance and unity.

The dynamic on campus makes this series of events important, said GSSA President Sami Ray. "We put together this week because NSU is a very conservative campus."

Educating students about the concerns of homosexuals was key. According to Ray, part of the problem is that some students commonly make derogatory comments that may be offensive without realizing it. "They don't understand what that means to the gay community," she said.

NSU's observance of the 10th Annual Day of Silence on Wednesday was "amazing," explained Ray. "We had a really good turn out in front of Parker," where the silence was broken at 7 p.m. "A lot of people were surprisingly supportive."

With an estimated 100 diversity pledges signed, Ray said that she is "really happy about what we did this week. I think we ended [the awareness] week on a strong note."



GSSA President Sammi Ray and Treasurer Mysti Fackler hand out T-shirts during the Quad Thursday event for Homophobia Awareness Week. Photo by Greg Kyriakakis

GSSA Treasurer Mysti Fackler agreed but felt that more outreach is needed. "I think we did [educate] to a certain extent," she said, but added that "there's more work to be done."

According to a news release, the Day of Silence is a nationally recognized event in which "an estimated 500,000 students at 4,000 schools... peacefully bring attention to the pervasive problem of anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender bullying and harassment in schools."

Other events during the awareness week, which ran

from Wednesday, April 26, to Friday, April 28, included a movie night coordinated with BCC's GSA, a T-shirt giveaway during Quad Thursday, and a guest speaker.

Anand Adatia, a junior who attended the celebration on the quad was pleased that organizers put together the events. "I think Homophobia Awareness Week is a good thing because it allows people to be more conscious of the different groups on campus and promotes diversity, which is good for growth and unity within our campus."

## NSU Holds Forensic Sciences Symposium

By Michael Bergbauer  
*Staff Writer*

On April 28 and 29, NSU's 4th annual Forensics Sciences Symposium was held in the Steele auditorium at HPD. The event began at 6 p.m. on Friday with a reception and poster displays similar to that of the recent Undergraduate Student Symposium.

The night was marked by a keynote address about forensic and investigative

analysis of a death scene delivered by Louis Eliopoulos, a Forensic Consultant and Senior Homicide Investigations Analyst with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

The symposium continued the following day at 8 a.m. and included activities such as workshops in blood stain pattern recognition, document examination, forensic insect identification,

and demonstrations including how drug detector dogs are trained. Also part of the symposium were presentations from numerous forensics experts.

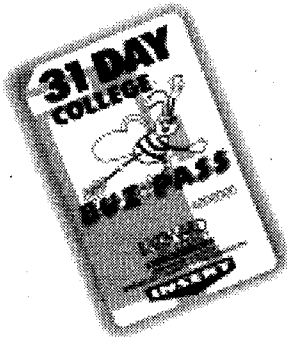
Sponsors for this year's symposium were Applied Biosystems, American Chemical Society (SoFL-ACS), College of Medical Sciences (NSU), Farquhar College of Arts & Sciences (NSU).

## SHARK NOTE

You're reading the very last issue of *The Current* for the 2005-2006 academic year. However, have no fear, our Orientation Issue for 2006 will be on stands in June.



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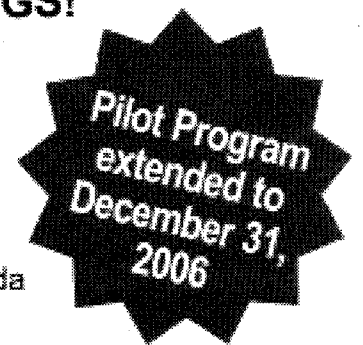
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| • South Regional Library      | 7300 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines            |
| • Southwest Regional Library  | 16835 Sheridan Street, Pembroke Pines       |
| • Alvin Sherman Library (NSU) | 3100 Ray Ferrero Jr., Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale |



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## Scary Movie 4: Is a Fourth Helping Necessary?

By Paul Saneaux  
Staff Writer

Rating: \$4.50

Who knew that a film franchise based on spoofs of blockbuster movies would last into its fourth installment and that it would even be mildly successful? I've tried to avoid the other *Scary Movies* since the first one was released in 2000 because it wasn't too funny, but the other movies crept up on me one way or another on cable television. *Scary Movie 4*, containing parodies of *Saw*, *War of the Worlds*, *The Grudge*, *The Village*, *Million Dollar Baby*, *The Ring II*, *The Skeleton Key*, and *Brokeback Mountain* (of course), was genuinely amusing throughout most of the film.

As mostly everyone knows, the idea behind the *Scary Movie* franchise is not terribly original; simply take all of the biggest movies that recently hit the silver screen and throw them into one movie poking fun of them all. What was original about part four, a feature that stood out more when compared to the other installments, is how the writer managed to intertwine the plots of all the parodied movies together to



Brenda (Regina Hall) and Cindy (Anna Farris) realize the contraptions on their necks aren't going to help them stop the alien invasion. Photo courtesy Movies.com

make one plot that actually made some kind of sense. I won't explain how all the plots work together, though; it would be difficult to avoid spoilers.

Cindy (Anna Farris), the stereotypical "dumb blonde" featured in all the other *Scary Movies*, gets a job in which she has to take care of a catatonic woman. The connection to the other films revolves around this plot device. The house of the catatonic woman, taken from *The Skeleton Key*, happens to be haunted by the little boy from *The Grudge* and is

next door to Tom Ryan (Craig Bierko), a spoof of Tom Cruise taken from *War of the Worlds*. How the plot evolves and flashes back and forth between plots from the other movies is somewhat clever. The most amusing and witty connection is between *War of the Worlds* and *Saw*, but there is where a spoiler lies.

Outside of movie plots there are also other references to pop culture, like the virulent iPod, and

**Please See SCARY**  
Page 8

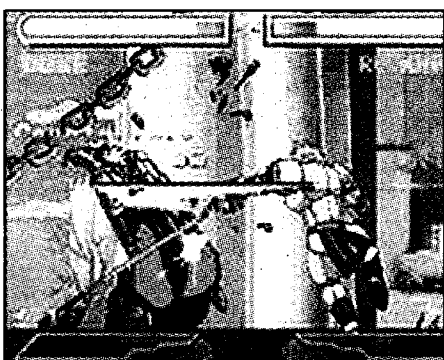
## Playing in the Past: Dual Blades

Michael Bergbauer  
Staff Writer

If you find yourself bored or disappointed with new or upcoming releases, it may be time for you take a step back and play a few oldies. "Playing in the Past" will reminisce on some of the games of yore, covering titles that may have passed you by.

While trying to think of what to review for the last issue of the paper, I knew that it had to be a game with an unmatched greatness/unpopularity ratio. A game like *Dual Blades*.

Most players don't expect good story when it comes to fighting games, but *Dual Blades*' effort at



Dual Blades: an absolute must-have for fighting fans.

one isn't half-bad. A great warrior, Alperen, is in possession of a mystical weapon called the Dual Blades. Growing weary of the immortality the weapon grants its master, Alperen gathers great warriors from across time to engage in a tournament where he may die a warrior's death and the Dual Blades may find a new master. These gathered warriors make up the roster of playable characters for the game. It is a bit small with only eight to choose from (and a ninth to unlock), but all characters are extremely different from one another, ranging from Ottoman warrior to medieval knight. Additionally, you can enter a code to play as a character's "EX version." These features really dull the fact that there are a small number of characters to choose from.

One of the great things about *Dual Blades* is that unlike most fighting games, it is relatively easy to pick up and get into, while still offering plenty of features to give it depth. There is a parry system akin to some *Street Fighter* games.

There is also a "rage gauge" you fill while fighting and deplete by using incredible "rage-moves" and (a unique feature) canceling your attacks mid-way to avoid being hit or lessen the recovery time on your moves to extend your combos. You can also sacrifice your rage gauge to break away from an opponent's combo. There are also plenty of long, hard hitting (and even infinite) combos. But all of these are easy to learn. You don't have to hit the button during one special frame or anything ridiculous like in many other fighters. As such, *Dual Blades* is definitely one of the most highly accessible fighters to date.

Aside from its story mode, *Dual Blades* offers a training mode (complete with combo tutorial), time attack mode and survival mode. You can also adjust difficulty and the fight speed to customize your bouts. These modes are okay, but the real

**Please See DUAL**  
Page 8

## Showbiz Bits

By Marines Alvarez  
A&E Editor

### Who Didn't Get the Memo?

Apparently Britney Spears didn't. You drive around with your baby in the front seat, change his diaper on top of tables in public restaurants and let him fall off of high chairs. What do you do next? Give him up for adoption and probably save his life? No! You have another baby, of course. According to *US Weekly*, Britney was spotted in Las Vegas with a "serious baby bump," and sources have confirmed that the ex-pop idol is expecting. Let's be fair and also say that Spears reportedly fired the nanny that let Sean Preston, her seven-month-old baby, fall from his high chair. Think you are sick of Spears making headlines now? Wait until there are two babies around (read: two babies to drop).

### Fried Heiress on a Pole

That may sound like the latest addition to the menu at your favorite restaurant, or maybe you were able to decode what that really means: Paris Hilton almost got electrocuted, but that didn't stop her from drunkenly dancing on a stripper pole. Now, I know that electrocution is very serious and not funny at all... but it's *Paris Hilton*. The *Sunday Mirror* is reporting that while at boyfriend Stavros Niarchos' birthday party, Hilton jumped into the pool after a garden light crashed into it. Before you start thinking that Hilton is just incredibly dumb, witnesses say that Hilton was so drunk that when she later tried to dance on a stripper pole, she could barely grab it. See? Not dumb, just drunk.

### I So Did NOT Wish You Well

Usually when publicists have to clear things up, its horribly misconstrued statements or something of that nature. Nicole Kidman's publicist is making sure that everyone knows that, despite what the *Daily Mail* was claiming, Kidman did not issue any statements wishing Katie Holmes and newborn baby Suri well. The fake statement blatantly left out the father of the baby and Kidman's ex Tom Cruise. But, like I said, and so everyone is clear, Kidman's people insist that there were no well wishes for anyone in that family. Of course, that doesn't mean she wishes the unwell. It's more like she'd rather not think about it. "Wishing" people anything is pretty useless anyway. Way to save your breath dear.

### Accident Freak

Of course I know the saying is "freak accident," but today we're talking about Teri Hatcher, who I can't help but think is an accident freak. I'm not sure what that means, but once you've kissed Ryan Seacrest, Mrs. Hatcher, you're opening yourself up to any and all names. Further adding to her apparent attraction to incredibly weird situations, Hatcher told *People* that "glass lodged into [her] right eye" and scratched her cornea after a light bulb exploded on the set of "Desperate Housewives." What? Who does that happen to? And is it coincidence that her character on "Housewives" is the clumsiest klutz ever to grace Sunday nights? The world may never know, but I do have some sage advice Teri: Stop kissing Ryan Seacrest. Seriously. Scratched cornea, pirate eye patch or not. That really freaked me out and there is no excuse for that.



# This Week in Arts & Entertainment

## Movie Openings

May 5

### *An American Haunting*

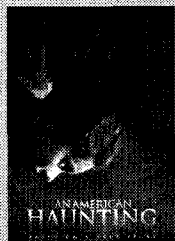
**Starring:** Donald Sutherland, Sissy Spacek

**Director:** Courtney Solomon

**Genre:** Thriller

**MPAA Rating:** PG-13

Known throughout Tennessee as "Old Kate," the Bell Witch took up residence with John Bell's family in 1818. It was a cruel and noisy spirit, given to rapping and gnawing sounds before it found its voices. With these voices and its supernatural acts, the Bell Witch tormented the Bell family. Based on the extraordinary book that recounts the only documented case in U.S. history when a spirit actually caused a man's death.



### *Mission: Impossible III*

**Starring:** Tom Cruise, Philip Seymour Hoffman

**Director:** J.J. Abrams

**Genre:** Action, Adventure

**MPAA Rating:** PG-13

Super spy Ethan Hunt has retired from active duty to train new IMF agents. But he is called back into action to confront the toughest villain he's ever faced – Owen Davian, an international weapons and information provider with no remorse and no conscience.

## Album Releases

Available May 2

*10,000 Days* by Tool

*Pearl Jam* by Pearl Jam

*Goodbye Alice in Wonderland* by Jewel

*Welcome Home* by Brian Littrell



## Book Releases

Available May 2

*Beach Road* by James Patterson

Montauk lawyer Tom Dunleavy's client list is woefully small—occasional real estate closings barely keep him in paper clips. When he is hired to defend a local man accused in a triple murder that has the East Hampton world in an uproar, he knows that he has found the case of his lifetime.

*Digging to America* by Anne Tyler

Two families, who would otherwise never have come together, meet by chance at the Baltimore airport—the Donaldsons, a very American couple, and the Yazdans, Maryam's fully assimilated son and his attractive Iranian American wife. Each couple is awaiting the arrival of an adopted infant daughter from Korea. After the babies from distant Asia are delivered, Bitsy Donaldson impulsively invites the Yazdans to celebrate with an 'arrival party,' an event that is repeated every year as the two families become more deeply intertwined.

## DVD Releases

Available May 2

Sarah Jessica Parker in *The Family Stone*

Queen Latifah in *Last Holiday*

Anne Hathaway in *Hoodwinked*

## Entertainment

May 2

*Mamma Mia!* at the Jackie Gleason Theater in Miami Beach

May 4

The Blues Brothers at the Hard Rock Live in Hollywood

May 6

Bill Engvall at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Ft. Lauderdale

Frank Sinatra Jr at the BankAtlantic Center in Sunrise

Bubba Sparxxx at Revolution in Ft. Lauderdale

Movie synopsis and photos courtesy of [www.movies.yahoo.com](http://www.movies.yahoo.com)

Book synopsis courtesy of [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)

Compiled by Marines Alvarez

## DUAL

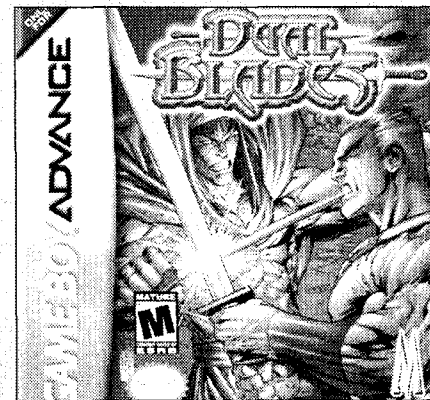
continued from page 7

extension of replay value comes from multi-player. Not much can be said about multi-player, as it the same thing as single-player, but you fight a human opponent. That said, multi-player will last as long as your friends will let it.

The graphics in *Dual Blades* are pretty nice. The game features some cool scenery and brings nice sprites and character portraits with many fluid animations and flashy special moves. However, the game falls short in the sound department with no voice acting and so-so music, although it does sport some nice meaty hit sound effects.

*Dual Blades* is a great all-around fighting game with such depth and accessibility that both casual and

veteran fighting fans will find a true gem here. Its only real flaw is that it doesn't keep the experience going with more game modes or characters. If you can find this game, get it while you can. I give *Dual Blades* 7.5 lost hours of sleep out 8.



**System:** Gameboy Advance  
**Genre:** 2D Fighting  
**Original Release Date:** 10/7/02  
**Rating:** 7.5/8

## SCARY

continued from page 7

recent events. There is one reference that I think may offend some people. Leslie Nielson plays President Baxter Harris in a scene that resembles the elementary classroom President Bush was visiting when he learned of the Sept. 11 attacks. While the scene was amusing (I can't help but laugh at Leslie Nielson), there were a couple of lines that probably shouldn't have been included. To make things worse, the scene taken from *War of the Worlds*, featuring the downed passenger jet, came right after that of the classroom. Maybe I'm reading too much into it, but a reference to Sept. 11 followed by a reference to a crashed airliner probably wasn't a smart idea; especially considering all the controversy and ruckus over the soon-to-be-released *United 93*, a docudrama about the passengers that died preventing terrorists from using the aircraft in an attack. From the reaction to the classroom and the following aircraft crash scene I saw from the audience I was in, it didn't seem like many people noticed the connection. I definitely grimaced and whispered to myself, "Oh no," when I saw the aircraft wreckage scroll across the screen. Maybe the near silence during those scenes was an indication.

One feature of *Scary Movie 4* that the crew can be proud of is how well the set, costume, and special effects designers replicated the scenes from the big budget counterparts. If I could place certain scenes from *Scary Movie 4* and the other movies

back to back and compare the camera work and set details, it would difficult to tell them apart at times. The irony in that level of accuracy lends much to the humor. The secluded community from *The Village* was almost an exact copy and the camera work during the alien invasion and electrical storm was perfectly executed. The crew and art direction is really top notch. Anything less would have drawn away from the humor.

Now... only if the acting was a well executed as the technical aspects. The cast is made up of some big names; Charlie Sheen, Carmen Electra, Michael Madsen, Dr. Phil, Shaquille O'Neal, Molly Shannon, Bill Pullman, and James Earl Jones all make appearances. The acting is not of Academy Award caliber, but what else can be expected from a spoof? I'd have to say that the best cast role has to be Craig Bierko as Tom Cruise. Although Bierko looks nothing like Cruise, he got the attitude and persona down right. That can be seen during the extra bit at the end of the movie that parodies Cruise's visit to Oprah, which, by the way, has to be funniest part of the entire film.

Whether or not you absolutely loved or abhorred the recent blockbuster movies, everyone will find at least one scene of *Scary Movie 4* worth the watch. The humor is clever at most parts despite the annoying slap stick comedy in other parts. I'd consider this installment the best of the entire mediocre franchise.

**Starring:** Craig Bierko, Anna Faris, Leslie Nielson, Bill Pullman, Charlie Sheen  
**Writers:** Craig Mazin  
**Director:** David Zucker  
**Rated:** PG-13

**MOVIE REVIEWS**

\$6 BRAVE THE LINES OPENING NIGHT!

\$5- SEE IT NEXT WEEK.

\$4- BORED? AFTERNOON MATINEE.

\$3- NO HURRY. RENT IT.

\$2- ACCIDENTLY CATCH IT ON HBO.

\$1- WALMART DVD BARGAIN BIN.



# Summer Sizzlers

Check these movies out for some summer fun

By Marinez Alvarez  
A&E Editor

Ah, commercialism. It's the principal that brings you boxed chocolates on Valentines, shamrock boxers on St. Patrick's Day and, of course, tons of movie-going experiences to fill your summer vacation. To ensure that this year you spend your hard earned money on more sizzle and less fizzle, I bring you summertime's top movie prospects:

## *Poseidon*

**Starring:** Josh Lucas, Kurt Russell, Emmy Rossum

## Action, Adventure

I know; it's a re-make. While that may be a curse word in the world of movie making (especially when it comes to cult classics and campy faves), the early buzz on *Poseidon*, which premieres May 12, is that this re-make is worth it. The movie follows a small group of people who survive when the Poseidon, a luxury cruise ship, capsizes in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. On the technical side, you can bet that this version beats the 1972 version's butt and if your are expecting the same campy

(read: horrendous) dialogue- no such luck; director Wolfgang Petersen plays it straight.

**Why See It:** This movie is rated PG-13 for "intense prolonged sequences of disaster and peril." No kidding. Character development is condensed to pack in action, action and more action.

## *The Da Vinci Code*

**Starring:** Tom Hanks, Jean Reno  
**Thriller**

It can be argued that not since Harry Potter has there been such an anticipated best-seller adaptation. In this movie, opening May 19, clues hidden in the works of Leonardo Da Vinci lead an academic to a religious mystery. With director Ron Howard leading a spot-on cast, the movie is sure to draw in and please some of the owners of the 40 million copies of this book that were sold.

**Why See It:** What? Is Tom Hanks not enough? Okay then, see it because you liked the book. Or see it because you haven't read the book but everyone is talking about it.

## *X-Men: The Last Stand*

**Starring:** Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry

## Action, Fantasy, Sci-Fi

Down, comic book geeks, down. There are many reasons to have doubts about this latest addition to the X-Men legacy, the greatest being the departure of director Bryan Singer, who moved on to directing a certain man of steel. The new director, Brett Ratner, is admittedly a founding member of Comic Book Geeks Inc. and seriously - could he possibly mess up the rise of Phoenix? Here's to hoping that no such thing will happen. Be there to catch this release May 26.

**Why See it:** Spiderman 3 doesn't come out until 2007!

## *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*

**Starring:** Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightly

## Action, Adventure

There is a huge *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie poster in the office where I work and I may have learned to love it. That being said, things look to be in order for the sequel, seeing as

how all the major players have signed on once more. We rejoin Captain Jack Sparrow as he learns that he owes a blood debt to Davy Jones which he must pay in order to avoid eternal damnation. Believe it or not, *Dead Man's Chest* seems to be a bit more romance-y than the first part - which might not be bad, seeing how everyone involved is so pretty.

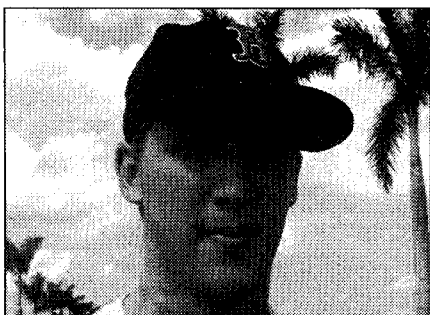
**Why See It:** Because you loved the first one and you secretly have a thing for pirates.

And these are just the blockbuster names. There are sure to be the diamonds in the rough this summer, as well as those movies that are just so bad that their badness entertains us anyways. I mean, Keanu Reeves has two movies coming out, the makers of *Napoleon Dynamite* are bringing you Jack Black as *Nacho Libre*, and I didn't mention a *Superman Returns* because two comic book movies... down comic book geeks, down.

Nevertheless, enjoy yourselves this summer, no matter what the movie. Remember all your theater outing horror stories and save them until next time.

# NSU On The Scene:

"What are your plans for this summer?"



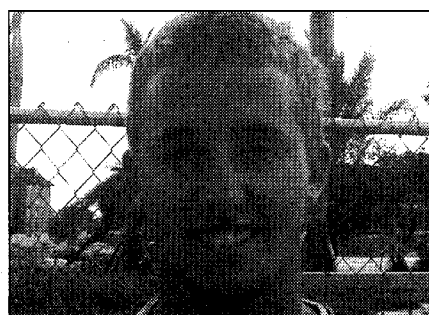
Brian McCaffigan  
Boston, MA  
Business  
Freshman

"Doing carpeting."



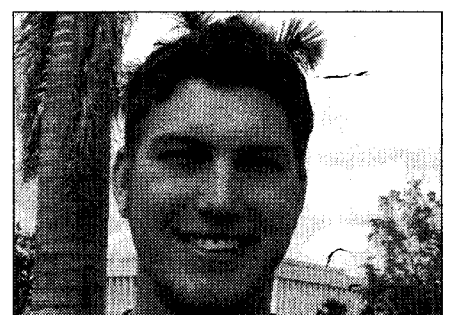
Caittin Vanin  
Boston, MA  
Business  
Freshman

"Working."



Chance Foutch  
Tulsa, Ok  
Finance  
Sophomore

"I am going back to Tulsa where I plan to work at a bank."



Jarod Remick  
Allen, Texas  
Finance  
Sophomore

"Going home and working."

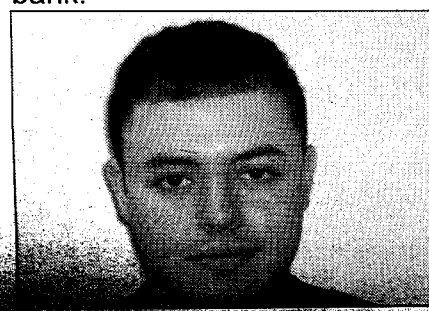


Sonia Singh  
Virginia  
Marine Biology  
Freshman

"I am going to get a job the summer."



Dana



# Opinions

PAGE 10



Alisha VanHoose  
Editor-in-Chief

Dear NSU Community,

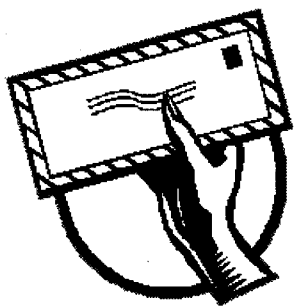
I was going to talk about what an interesting and exciting year it's been, but I don't think I'm going to do that anymore. Not that it hasn't been interesting and exciting – it really has – it's more that I write something to that effect every time we hit the last issue of the year.

Yes, this is the last issue of *The Current* for the 2005-2006 school year, and no, I'm not going to be sentimental about it. I suppose it is something of a novelty to have the first-ever last issue of *The Current*, since this is the first semester that we have not been *The Knight*. Perhaps our somewhat-more-active pages have been as a result of increased interest in the publication, and perhaps it's a result of all of you keeping all of us busy. I'd like to think it's a little bit of both.

We've enjoyed writing for you, our readers, this year, and hope that you've been entertained and informed by the contents of our pages.

See you in August,

*Alisha VanHoose*



To my fellow schoolmates,

As a concerned student, I have already addressed faculty and I have already addressed heads of NSU. It is now time that I address you, the student body, the backbone of NSU. I hope that you do not simply read the words of this letter, but that you come away with a clearer perception of life. By the end of this letter, I hope that you come away with a greater appreciation for respect and that you come away with true feelings of equality for your fellow people. The point of this letter is to open our eyes to the fact that the bond of humanity transcends our differences. Things like race, gender, religion, and social class allow us to be unique, but we are still tied together by our humanness.

The problem with society today is that people do not really seem to care. We might think we care, but do we really? We can all come to an agreement that hunger is a sad problem, but when we drive

## Letter from a Reader

One world, One love

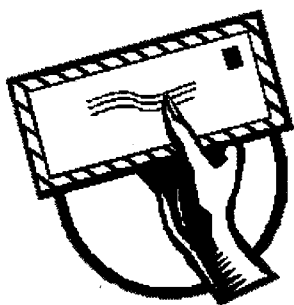
passed the homeless standing on the side of the street, do we really feel? We might give the person an occasional dollar, but do we ever try to put ourselves in their shoes? Do we try to understand life from their perspective? The thing is that nowadays we are so wrapped up in our own individual worlds that we don't take the time to be concerned about the worlds of others. In a lifestyle that makes it ever-so-easy to attain instant gratification, it is no wonder people seem so apathetic. Movies, music, parties, if overly indulged in, give us the false sense that everything is alright. On top of that, we are constantly bombarded by the media with problems the world is going through. At times it is hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel. It seems that there is never any good in the world and that there is nothing that we, individually, can do about it. We are safe and comfortable in our furnished homes, we have running water, and our tables are always set for three square meals.

We sometimes wonder

why we should feel for others. It seems like the only thing that will come out of it is depression, and besides, it's not like others care about us. It is this stagnation of care that lets oppression and injustices continue to ravage this world, our world. If we could truly care about everyone on an equal footing, we would solve many of our problems. The fact of the matter is that when we are all united under the banner of humanity, we lose all of the issues revolving around the whole "us against them" mentality. It is no longer the epidemics in Africa, it is no longer the poverty of the homeless, it is no longer the problem of the Unikko workers: it is now our problem. If we truly cared, we would actually do something. We could rid Africa of diseases, we could help the homeless get back on their feet, and we could ensure that all laborers are paid respectable wages. The day when we stop caring for others and the day when we no longer see others

**Please See LETTER**

*Page 15*



## Letter from the Faculty

The undersigned faculty make the following statement concerning their views of the controversy surrounding our commencement speaker, Salman Rushdie.

We applaud and encourage the debate of ideas, as this is the foundation and primary purpose of universities. Thus, we submit that the boycott or censure of an individual or event based on conflicting ideas is not a productive approach. Instead, let us continue with our public and private dialog.

Much of the controversy revolves around Mr. Rushdie's satiric novel, *The Satanic Verses*, a work of fiction. As literary critics have noted, characters in a work of fiction cannot in principle represent

the views of the author. Tolstoy is neither Vronsky nor Anna Karenina, and in this same respect, no character in Rushdie's fiction represents his views. He, not his characters, should be the source for information about his views of Islam.

*The Satanic Verses* is generically classified as a satire. Our culture embraces satire as a legitimate form of social criticism, often using humor as a device to soften biting commentary (e.g. *The Daily Show*). He is not representing any religious position. Furthermore, Mr. Rushdie has produced numerous literary and scholarly works, and to narrow our focus to the controversy provoked by one novel, which was itself based on limited understanding of that text, betrays our academic values that prize independence of thought and speech.

A second concern expressed by those objecting to Salman Rushdie's visit is that a controversial person should not speak at commencement. Commencement is not only an opportunity for celebrating student achievement; it is a celebration of the process involved in becoming a truly thoughtful person. This includes tolerating alternative ideas and subsequent discussion involving their critical examination. This is especially true for ideas commonly accepted without question such as those based on tradition, culture, or religion. Socrates believed that the unexamined life is not worth living, and we encourage an examined approach to the controversy.

The process of education does not end with the last exam, or even when the diploma is awarded. It is a continuing process to which

we, as faculty, hope to have contributed. Let Salman Rushdie's commencement address be the next step in everyone's education.

### FACULTY

Joshua Feingold  
Alexandru Cuc  
Andrew Rogerson  
Suzanne Ferriss  
Lynn Wolf  
Mark J. Cavanaugh  
Steven Alford  
Gary Gershman  
Charles Messing  
Kate Waites  
Eileen M. Smith  
Chetachi Egwu  
David McNaron  
Allan Schulman  
Weylin Sternglanz  
Richard Spieler  
James Doan  
Frank Casale



## LETTER

*continued from page 13*

as our equal fellow humans is the day when the light at the end of the tunnel is extinguished. It is on that day when your individual worlds of glass will be shattered, it is on that day when you are on the receiving end of inequality, and it is then when you wonder why no one is willing to help you.

Fellow classmates, that horrendous day does not have to come. We do not have to wait until we are personally affected to reach out to others. We need to strengthen our bonds with all of humanity so that no injustice goes unchallenged. It is on these grounds that I, one of the concerned students, ask for your support and attendance at our graduation celebration on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. I do not ask you to come as a form of disrespect to the school, as this is not the purpose of the event, but I ask you to come to share the experience of graduation with those who will not be attending the actual graduation on May 7<sup>th</sup>. To say that Salman Rushdie does not exemplify anti-Islamic sentiment would be foolish. All I ask for is equality and respect for all. This time it is against Islam, next time it might be an anti-semitic, a gay basher, a white supremacist, or an Asian hater. I ask you for support now so that when your time will come to be on the receiving end of an injustice, you will not be alone on that day. Please support and attend the graduation celebration on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May.

Thanks for your support,  
Tariq Lateef

## SEIU

*continued from page 1*

answer," said Dawson. "I can suspect that the replacement workers were sent by UNICCO, however. UNICCO is our contractor, so they have a responsibility to provide workers to keep the university clean and safe."

U N I C C O representatives could not be reached for a statement.

The school year is coming to a close, and the university continues to function untouched by the actions of striking UNICCO workers and what Ferrero refers to as SEIU's attempt

to "intimidate" and "coerce" unsupportive workers.

"It's business as usual," exclaimed Dawson. "There have been no interruptions or major problems and the university is looking forward to graduation. President Ferrero has pledged in all his letters that union activities will not affect our mission statement and our obligations to the students."

While little union or student activity has been witnessed at NSU, the University of Miami has experienced the involvement of students and faculty in support of UNICCO workers

and SEIU efforts.

On April 25, UM professors Rebecca Biron and Ambler Moss, along with FIU professor Bruce Nissen, have started an online petition urging President Donna Shalala to cut off dealings with UNICCO and allow workers to unionize. In a letter to the UN student newspaper, Tanya Aquino, one of over 150 people participating in an ongoing hunger strike, claimed that UM "aligns itself with the law-breaking" by refusing "to recognize the illegal actions of its employee UNICCO."

## RESEARCH

*continued from page 1*

published in the journal will benefit from the experience, explained Brimmer. "[Having work published] is a major accomplishment; it will help them in grad school."

The journal can also benefit the entire of the NSU community. Students can go online to get an idea of what a project for the research symposium looks like, or may use a research project of the

same topic as a source of a class assignment.

"Other students can use it [freely]," said Reiter. "The Farquhar Student Journal is not only for Farquhar students, it is for all undergraduates including business students, nursing students, and all undergrad schools and programs. But only undergraduates, not faculty or graduate students, will be allowed to publish on the journal."

The journal, to be published once in fall and again in winter, is "good for students, good for faculty and good for the college," said Brimmer.

Research can be submitted through e-mail to fsj@nova.edu. More information about the journal can be obtained by contacting Reiter at (954) 262-3760, mdreiter@nova.edu, or on the internet at <http://www.undergrad.nova.edu/fsj>.

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[nsunews@nsu.nova.edu](mailto:nsunews@nsu.nova.edu)  
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Judith Francois  
Tranell Mesa  
Paul Saneaux  
Earl Tinsley  
Michael Palozzola  
Kristine Belizaire  
Terry Weech  
Gariot Louima

[nsunews@nova.edu](mailto:nsunews@nova.edu)  
[marines@nova.edu](mailto:marines@nova.edu)  
[kgreg@nova.edu](mailto:kgreg@nova.edu)  
[rafia@nova.edu](mailto:rafia@nova.edu)  
[winslett@nova.edu](mailto:winslett@nova.edu)  
[bergbaue@nova.edu](mailto:bergbaue@nova.edu)  
[mfrancoi@nova.edu](mailto:mfrancoi@nova.edu)  
[tranell@nova.edu](mailto:tranell@nova.edu)  
[saneaux@nova.edu](mailto:saneaux@nova.edu)  
[tearl@nova.edu](mailto:tearl@nova.edu)  
[palozzol@nova.edu](mailto:palozzol@nova.edu)  
[kbelizai@nova.edu](mailto:kbelizai@nova.edu)  
[weechtd@nova.edu](mailto:weechtd@nova.edu)  
[louima@nova.edu](mailto:louima@nova.edu)

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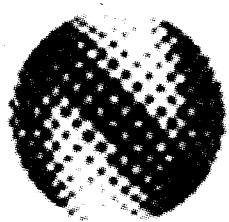
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